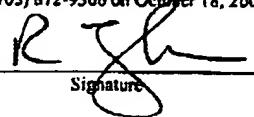


**RECEIVED  
CENTRAL FAX CENTER****OCT 18 2004****PATENT  
016295.0663**

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.8 and 1.6(d), I hereby certify that I have information and a reasonable basis for belief that this paper will be transmitted by facsimile to (703) 872-9306 on October 18, 2004.	
 Signature	10-18-04 Date

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of:

Dearborn et al.

Serial No.: 09/876,594

Filed: June 7, 2001

Invention: System and Method for Host  
Based Target Device Masking  
Based on Unique Hardware  
Addresses

Group No.: 2632

Examiner: Toan Ngoc Pham

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION MAILED JUNE 16, 2004**Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

In response to the Office Action mailed June 16, 2004, Applicants submit this response and respectfully request reconsideration of the Examiner's objections and rejections.

**Petition for Extension of Time**

Applicants petition for a one-month extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 up to and including October 18, 2004. Applicants note that October 16, 2004 was a Saturday, and that October 17, 2004 was a Sunday. October 18, 2004 is the first business day following

HOU03:994541.1